## **FOREWORD**

Nebraska statute requires that records of birth, death, fetal death, marriage and divorce be filed with the Vital Records Office in the Division of Public Health of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. Approximately 60,000 records of vital events occurring in Nebraska are filed annually, adding to the approximately 6.9 million such records already on file. Over 100,000 certified copies of these records are issued each year.

Responsibility for filing certificates of birth lies with the individual in attendance at birth, usually a physician. Funeral directors are responsible for filing certificates of death and of fetal death when burial takes place. Hospitals must file fetal death certificates when hospital disposal is performed. County clerks and District Court clerks are, respectively, responsible for filing records of marriage and divorce. The excellent cooperation of all these individuals is appreciated. Without their support, this report would not be possible.

The following individuals in the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services have contributed to the information presented in this report.

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Providing useful data stands as the goal of this report. Any questions or comments regarding the report, or requests for more detailed information, should be directed to:

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A copy of this report may be found at: http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/ced\_vs.aspx